Numb. 24.

The British Apollo,

OR,

Curious Amuſements for the INGENIOUS.

To which are added the moſt

Material Occurrences Foreign and Domeſtick.

Perform'd by a Society of GENTLEMEN.

From **Friday** April 30th. to **Wednesday** May 5th. 1708.

ANY that deſire the ſecond *Monthly Papers*, may have them any time this Month, at 2 Pence a piece, or 6 Pence a Quarter. *Note*, that if any take them now, who did not take the firſt, no more will be reckon'd at the end of the Quarter than what they ſhall have taken in by the end of the Quarter. They may be had of Mr. *Bickerton*, or of the Men who carry them.

Q. *A Perſon who ſays he is a Foreigner, and therefore not very converſant in the* Engliſh *Tongue, has ſent us a* Latin *Queſtion, which he leaves us at liberty to propoſe in* Engliſh, *namely how to compute the firſt day of the World, and aſſign the Region, where it firſt commenc'd?*

A. The *Jews* computed their day from Sun-ſet, agreeably to the firſt account of them, the Evening and the Morning were the firſt day. But ſince before the Creation of the heavenly Luminaries we read of the ſame revolution of day and night, it follows, that no ſooner was Light created (for then the beginning of the firſt day commenc'd) than there were different hours of the thus computed day, according to the different Parts of the indigeſted Chaos. But to aſſign the region, where the beginning of the firſt day took its riſe, is a thing impoſſible, becauſe the Earth was then without Form and Void, and therefore not correſpondent to this preſent Globe. But to come the neareſt to ſuch a Computation is, to eſtimate the ſixth day (when the Earth was finiſh'd) Since of that alſo it is ſaid, and the Evening and the Morning were the ſixth day. And yet here the difficulty will be ſtill as great, if, as the Sun may be ſuppos'd to ſucceed the Firſt born light, either in the ſame part of the ſame Circle, or the correſpondent part of another, ſo we only ſay, that the ſixth day began in that part of the Earth, which then happen'd to have the Sun in it's Diurnal Revolution juſt below it's occidental Horizon. But if the Sun was primarily intended for this little Globe, we may at leaſt propoſe it as a Conjecture, that the Providence of God might ſo order the beginning of the firſt day, that the ſixth day might commence in Paradiſe, the firſt Habitation of our great Progenitor.

Q. *Gentlemen, Having ſeveral times had very warm Arguments and reaſoning with diverſe Perſons, who maintain there is an unavoidable Fate attending all Marriages: That is, that the Perſons, they do or ſhall marry, are inevitably allotted them by Providence, which they cannot avoid. Which I look upon to be contrary to Scripture Reaſon, and Experience; that ſcarce ever cou'd convince any of that (I think) brutiſh Stupidity; I deſire your Thoughts herein, to be inſerted in the* Britiſh Apollo, *which may convince ſeveral, and very much oblige your humble Servant,* S. R.

A. We don't wonder at your ill ſucceſs in ſuch Diſputes, ſince it is more eaſy to Confute than to Convince, ſuch is the Ignorance of ſome and the Obſtinacy of others. Tho' we beg leave to tell you, that you cannot confute your Antagoniſts by Experience, ſince it is impoſſible to demonſtrate to a married Man, that he might have choſen another Wife, any otherwiſe than by general Reaſon, which makes it Coincident with your ſecond Topick. We ask the Aſſertors of this irrational Fatality, whether, when a Man makes a ſinful Choice, that Choice be unavoidable. If they anſwer in the Negative, they give up the Cauſe; if in the Affirmative they make God the Author of Sin. Shou'd any Child of theirs be ſo diſobedient to their Commands as to throw himſelf away upon a worthleſs Perſon, we are apt to think, that they wou'd retaliate his Diſobedience with a ſuitable Reſentment. And yet to be in the leaſt angry with him is to diſavow their own Opinion. We wou'd enquire, whether upon the firſt notice of his intention they wou'd not endeavour to Diſſuade him from it: We anſwer for them, that they wou'd. And yet to Diſſuade from an unavoidable Action is ſure Impertinent, in *Judges* 3. 6. It is taken notice of in the *Iſraelites* as no inconſiderable fault, that they took the Daughters of the *Canaanites* to be their Wives, and gave their Daughters to their Sons. But however, the Scriptures may convince them of Sin, here is an Hypotheſis that will bear them harmleſs. For why ſhou'd they be accountable, where Inability muſt Excuſe? But as it muſt be allow'd, that Providence ſometimes more than ordinarily interpoſes, ſo our Freedom, as oppos'd to inevitable neceſſity, may be illuſtrated with the following inſtance. Let us ſuppoſe a Man upon two Propoſals, the one a very good one, the other the reverſe, out of an unwarrantable Humour to chooſe the laſt. We have reaſon to believe, that God will ſuffer him to proceed as a Puniſhment of his Folly, but ſince this ſufferance is occaſion'd by his own default, we cannot reaſonably imagin, that God wou'd have prevented him, had he been willing to have made a better choice. And thus the ſame thing is at once an Act of Providence in the Creator, and yet an Act of Choice in the Creature. In the one it is an Act of Juſtice in the other of Folly.

Q. *In a Book Entituled* Wibbin's Art of Measuring *you will find this: If a round Column be 35 Inches, and the length 364 Inches, how much does the piece contain in Cubick Feet. Now the Question is thus solved; to the double of the Logarithm of the Diameter, add the Logarithm of the length, and to that add in all Cases the fixt Number 6.65732, the Sum of all which in this Case will be found to be 203. What I desire of* Apollo *is to have the Construction of the first Number 6.65732?*

A. If the Square of the Diameter is multiplied by .785 and that again into the length of the Column, and the Product divided by 1728 (number of Cubic Inches in a Cubic Foot) you will have the solidity of the Column in Cubic Feet. Therefore your fixt Number must be the Logarithm of .785 divided by 1728.

Q. *After what manner does the Sympathetick Powder Perform such Cures as are ascribed to it, By Sir* Kenelm Digby, *The Honourable Mr.* Boyle *and others, without the Application of it to the Party affected, curing at a Distance? Answer'd at large in the* Athenian Oracle, Vol. I. Page 71.

Q. *Whether there ever was, or may be now perform'd a Real Transmutation of Baser Mettals into Gold? Answered in the* Athenian Oracle, Vol. II. Page 329.

Q. *In what Country may I best regain my lost Health?*

A. In *France*, that being a most temperate Climate for Air; which is a main Ingredient for the Recovery of Health; therefore is advis'd to, by most skillful Physicians.

Q. *Which Beast is most Cunning?*

A. The Fox (as we conceive) because this Beast, when hunted, makes most doubles, to throw off the following Hounds.

Q. *Which Sin is more Abominable, Murder or Adultery?*

A. Murder, as being more substantially so, *ex Natura Rei*; whereas Adultery is only Sin Accidentally and Circumstantially; yet the last is so great a Sin, that the Scripture says, no Adulterers shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

Q. *What is the reason, that the Guelding of a Ram, prevents the Growth of the Horns, and the Guelding of a Bull increaseth the Growth of the Horns?*

A. Because the Guelding of a *Ram*, abates the Saline Parts of the Seminal Liquor, productive of Horns; but a Bull, being much more prone to venery, when Gueld, retains more of those Saline Parts, and not having a Natural Vent for them, they increase the Growth of their Horns.

Q. *Pray solve me what is meant by the word* Write, *in your Paper* Numb. 21 *in these Lines:*

For if on them and you Phœbus *shone bight,*
They would grow better, and you better write.

A. By the word *Write*, we mean a certain Manual Operation, rendring Pen, Ink and Paper, the Vehicles of Thoughts; an illustrious Demonstration whereof, at present offers it self, in that Communication of your Learned Question, to our Judgment for Solution.

Q. *Gentlemen, Ye pretend to be the Sons of* Phœbus, *your Father indeed foretold how long his Oracle would last; pray solve me how long Yours will last? Yours Sirs,* J. G. J. B.

A. We design to Answer Questions as long as People will send them; and we need not dispair of a Bushel a Week of such as yours, from this Inquisitive Town.

Q. *Gentlemen, I have subscrib'd to your Paper from the first publishing of the same and till now have not sent you one Question, and being Encourag'd by your* Numb. 20. (*where you say you will do your best to improve Mens Morals and enlighten their Understandings*) *I make bold to ask your Opinion of Gaming, whether he that plays or wagers for Money be not guilty of Covetousness? Your Answer will either continue or break a Gamester,* S. F.

A. When any Play for more than what is equal to them, whether they win or loose, it must be direct Coveting of other People's Money, since it can not be thought that any would Play with Design to loose their own; except to manage thereby some secret Intrigue or Stratagem, which may bare a worse Interpretation than the other.

Q. *What Liquor is wholesomest for our usual Drink?*

A. Climates and Constitutions must be consulted to give Answers in Particular, but in General; we believe true Wine and Water mixt the wholesomest.

Q. *Gentlemen, my Taylor has sent me his Bill, and reckons 15 Shillings for altering an old Coat and Waistcoat, which is not worth so much now 'tis done, and sets me down 3 Pound for the making of a new Suit of Clothes, which is very unreasonable. But he has wrote a Receipt at the Bottom,* Received the full Contents of this Bill. *Now, whether or no is it lawful for me to Cheat him, and say I have paid him this Money? A speedy Answer will oblige Yours* J. L.

A. The giving more for altering old things than they are worth is no Argument, the Taylor earn'd not his Money, but that you had no good Forecast: As for the lots of his Bill; should he draw a longer upon you in Chancery, to bring you upon your Oath for the Payment of it, and has Money and Courage to maintain the Suit, your Cloaths with their Consequences, may Cost you more than you are aware of; But be your Taylor an Honest Man, or a meer Taylor, you cannot in Honour or Honesty pretend to the benefit of an Acquittance but what you have not Discharg'd.

Q. Apollo, *they say you are so Cunning as a Conjurer, can you tell me my Present Thoughts?*

A. Yes, your Present Thoughts are, that we cannot tell them.

POEMS.

Q. *ASSociated Sages,*
My Wife in a rage is,
I cannot tell how to quell Her;
Sure the D---l was in her,
When just now at Dinner,
I chanc'd to throw down the Salt-cellar.
Like Billingsgate *fury,*
She scolds I assure ye,
And tells me of bad success;
For the spilling of Salt,
(An unpardonable Fault)
Doth cause, or predict no less.
I call her my Charm,
And tell her no harm,
From so trivial a matter can follow;
And if She is willing,
To wager a Shilling,
I'll send the debate to Apollo.
Pray Can it declare,
An Event that is rare,
Or shew the success of my Actions;
If not, for the future,
I desire you would tutour
Me how to prevent such Fractions. *And*

And whence did ariſe,
Such a fooliſh Surmiſe,
That ſpilling of Salt on the Table;
(Like dire Portents)
Unlucky Events,
To ſignify e're ſhould be able?

A. Many Wagers are ſent,
Like Yours with intent,
Our *Phœbus*'s Fame to advance Sir;
But like the Claret and Tea,
Your Shilling will be,
But a bite, to draw in an Anſwer.
Yet tho' we are willing,
To finger your Shilling,
Without it, We'l tell you the reaſon,
Why ſpilling of Salt,
Is eſteem'd ſuch a Fault,
Becauſe it doth every thing ſeaſon.
Th' Antiques did Opine,
'Twas of Friendſhip a Sign,
So ſerv'd it to Gueſts in Decorum;
And thought Love decay'd,
When the Negligent Maid,
Let the Salt cellar tumble before 'em.
Theſe in Ancient Romances
Were the Whims, and the Fancies
Of thoſe who ſet up for right Thinking:
But the Moderns more wiſe,
Such Trifles diſpiſe,
Improving free thought, by free Drinking.

Q. *Anſwer Ye Sons of Wiſdom; firſt I ask,*
Why you have undertook ſo great a Task?
Whether for Lucre, or t' acquaint the Age,
Apollo's Sons *are ſtill upon the Stage?*
Or is it to Refine unpolliſh'd Man?
If ſo, the Bleſſed Gods prolong your Span?
Yours when informd.

A. For Lucre? no, th' Expence muſt ſhew the Gains,
Can never anſwer half our Time and Pains:
Much leſs, Ambition can our Minds inſpire,
From Inquiſitions, ſince we ſtill retain:
To own your laſt, may be eſtem'd a Pride;
We'l leave the World to judge then, what it is beſide.

A Gentleman was pleas'd to ſend us a Copy of *Latin* Verſes, deſiring an Anſwer, which according to his requeſt, we have tranſlated and anſwer'd in *Engliſh*.

Q. *My Life bears Date (lo!) eight and twenty Years,*
Whoſe Grief A Signal of my Fate appears.
Sad I remain from Early Dawn of Day,
And languid Hours contract a Dead Delay.
When Lucid Beams Compoſe Diurnal light,
Black Thoughts recurr and from a Gloomy Night.
Sol's Quickning Beams afford my Soul no Eaſe,
Nor, Night return'd, do theſe my Torments ceaſe.
How oft alas have I, tho' vainly ſtrove
My Mind to reinſtate, my Cares to move!
If I the Muſes Court, or Poets read,
Some new Reflections new Afflictions Breed.
On Sabbath Days to Church I gladly go,
Hoping Devotion might exclude my Woe:
But when to Gracious Heaven I make Appeal,
My Pray'rs want Fervor, my Proſtration Zeal.
What Wandring Dreams attend my Turbid Reſt,
Cimmerian Darkneſs hovers o'er my Breaſt:
Theſe Diſmal Fogs, and Miſty Vapours Fled,
From Pond'rous Fetters Looſe, I raiſe my Head:
Luxuriant Joys my ſickly Senſes clear,
How can I well the great Mutation bear:
Thus Both Extreams Conſpire to wreck my Mind,
Ambiguous Fate appearing croſs and kind:
Oh that I could in Middle Paths but run,
Voracious Scylla's Rocks and Dread Charybdis ſhun?

A. The Cauſe from whence theſe different Woes (accrue,
Does doubtleſs manifeſt appear to you.
Whether in Mind the great Diſorder's fix'd,
Or with the Juices and the Blood commix'd:
If in the latter, try the Doctor's Skill,
Whoſe Healing Preſcripts may remove the Ill.
If in the former, Rules Divine are beſt,
To Calm the Paſſions and to purchaſe reſt,
Whoſe ſtrict obſervance, guides the doubtful ſtay,
And by a proſp'rous and conductive Ray,
Detects thoſe dang'rous Rocks and points the mid-dle way.

Q. *Say Jugling Prieſts (ſince 'tis moſt certain*
Your God has neither Brains, nor Beard;
And tho' Fools think he ſpeaks, You're heard,
By Wiſe-men, behind the Curtain.)

Why? when Old Somnus *nightly bruſhes,*
My Senſes with his dusky Wings,
He well ſtrung Nerves at once Unſtrings;
And Members grow as frail as Ruſhes.

Say too, ſince You will needs be ſhewing,
When Senſe and Thought do quite forſake,
And teaſing Care! Oh! do not wake!
Where Dwell's the Soul, and what She's doing?

A. The An'mal Spirits, tyr'd and ſpent,
Need Reſt (ſo frail is Human State)
Then they want Pow'r t' invigorate
The Nerves, to whom their Force is lent.

The Soul retir'd, does then reſign
To Fancy'd roving Whims the Sway,
Who thouſand Follies does diſplay,
Teaching to write Verſe juſt like thine.

But ſince our Follies you inſiſt on,
Your ſollid Head behind the Curtain,
Is a ſubantial Fool for certain,
Or ne'er of Fools you'd ask a Queſtion.

Sons

Sons of Apollo. *I think my ſelf extreamly oblig'd to* Apollo *for the Anſwer to my Queſtion in* Numb. 17, *of the* Ignis Fatuus. *Be pleaſed therefore to accept theſe Lines as an humble acknowledgment to* Apollo's Deity.

Hail Beards Divine!
Let Your ſoft Senſe, in ſofter Numbers flow,
In every Line a God like Genius ſhow.
By Your ſharp Wit all carping Criticks quell,
And be Divinely Brave without a Parallel.
Go on Bright Youths, and all that's Good purſue,
And let old *Athens* be renew'd in YOU.

Sic vaticinatur, J. J.

Foreign News, &c.

Vienna, April 25. N. S. His Imperial Majeſty has ſignified to his Commiſſioners at the Diet of Preſburg, that his Earneſt Deſire is, the Hungarians aſſembled there ſhou'd ſtate, and give an Account of their Grievances, the Emperor being deſirous to redreſs the ſame, to the utmoſt of his Power; and in particular he will permit the Proteſtants, to build ſome Churches, though not on the ſame foot with thoſe in Sileſia. The Daniſh Troops, which are in Bavaria, have at laſt receiv'd Orders to march for Hungary.

Cologne, May 1. N. S. Some time ſince, there was a riſing of the Mob in this City, occaſion'd by the Sermons which the Pruſſian Reſident caus'd to be preach'd, Every Sunday, by a Miniſter from Cleves, whom his Pruſſian Majeſty had ſent to him. Things have been quiet ſince, till Yeſterday when ſeveral Incitations were poſted up in many places of the City, to Invite the Romiſh Zealots to repair at a certain Hour before the Reſident's Houſe, in order to Inſult the ſame. Hereupon ſeveral Scholars and Common People got together, and committed ſeveral Outrages, but ſome Companies out of the Garriſons coming up, diſpers'd the Rioters.

Bruſſells, May 2. N. S. His Grace the Duke of Marlborough ſet out from the Hague the 7th Inſtant, at 8 in the Morning, and arriv'd at Antwerp the next Day, about 5 in the Afternoon, under a Triple Diſcharge of the Artillery. On the 19th Inſtant died here the Cout de Firimont, one of the Council of State to his Catholick Majeſty, and formerly Plenipotentiary and Ambaſſadour at the Congreſs of Ryſwick, in the 84th Year of his Age.

Antwerp, May 2. N. S. On Tueſday in the Afternoon his Grace the Duke of Marlborough arriv'd here, and ſet out the next Morning for Ghent, where he arriv'd about ſix the ſame Afternoon.

Paris, May 7. N. S. The Court of St. Germains lays the blame of their Miſcarriage in the Attempt upon Scotland, on the Count de Fourbin. But that Admiral on the other hand Expoſes the Court, as being too fond of their Chimerical Intreſt in Great Britain. However, 'tis ſaid the King has fully approv'd his Conduct. The Duke of Vendome is ſet out for Liſle, and will be followed on the 14th by the Duke of Burgundy, whoſe Baggage is preparing to be ſent away to morrow. The Duke of Berry ſets out the 15th and the Pretended Prince of Wales 4 or 5 days later. Twenty Battallions and 16 Squadrons are marching from Germany, to reinforce the Duke of Burgundy's Army in the Netherlands, and Thoſe Troops are to be ſupply'd by a like Number, that are marching from Dauphine. An Expreſs from the Duke of Orleans has brought advice, That that Prince deſign'd to review his Army the 4th Inſtant, between Fraga and Lerida, in order to pass the Segra the next day, and Invade Catalonia.

London, May 5. The Duke of Northumberland is made a Major General, and Earl Rivers General of Horſe.

James Cardonnell Eſq; is made a Commiſſioner of the Salt-Office.

Sir Philip Meadows Junior, and Thomas Broderick Eſq; are made Comptrollers of the Army. And Charles Downing Eſq; Comptroller of the Inward and Outward Port of London.

Any that deſire Books of Guards to keep their Papers in, may have them neatly bound for two Shillings a piece to hold 150 by leaving word with the Men in their walks.

Any Perſons may have the Supernumerary Paper for the Month of April, at 2 *d.* a piece or 6 *d.* a Quarter any time this Month at Mr. *Bickerton*'s.

All Perſons are deſir'd to ſend their Letters, whether with Queſtions or Subſcriptions for the Paper, either to Mr. *W. Keble*, in *Weſtminſter-Hall*, Mr. *Tho. Bickerton*, at the *Golden Flower-de-Luce*, in St. *Paul's-Church Yard*, or to the Printer, whoſe Name you will find at the End of the Paper, and to Subſcribe them for the *Britiſh Apollo*. At which Places alſo Advertiſements are Taken in at Half a Crown each, if of moderate length; they may alſo be deliver'd to the Men in their Walks.

Any Perſons may have whole Sets from the Beginning upon directing as before. The Conditions are, two Shillings per Quarter, to be deliver'd at each Perſon's Houſe, and proportionable Deductions to be made to all who come in within the Quarter.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Juſt Publiſh'd.

THE Invaſion, a Poem to the Queen, by Mr. Hill Printed for Tho. Bickerton at the Golden Flower-de-luce in St. Paul's-Church-Yard, Price 6 Pence, where may be had Camillus a Poem to the Right Honourable Charles Earl of Peterborough and Monmouth, on his Glorious Actions in Spain, Price 6 Pence.

A New Copy-book of Engliſh, French and Italian Capitals, by Command of Hand, Price 1 Shilling. The Writing-Maſter's Aſſiſtant enlarg'd; and a Preface by Coll. Ayres, Price 1 Shilling 6 Pence. By Robert More. Sold by the Author, at the Golden Pen in Brownlow-Street Holborn. Where are Taught Writing Arithmetick, Merchants Accompts and Short-hand. Alſo Youth Boarded or Taught Abroad.

LOST in St. James's Park the firſt Inſtant, a ſmall Spaniel, with long Ears of Liver-colour, five Liver-colour Spots on his Back, the reſt white, with long white Hair on his Cheſt, his Noſe and Legs motled; three Silver Bells guilt, on a blew Satten Ribon, about his Neck. Whoever has found him, and brings him to Madam Williams at Chelſea ſhall have a Guinea reward, and reaſonable Charges,

LOST in or near St. Paul's Church-Yard, a green Vellum Pocket-book, with divers Receipts for Rent in it, and other Accounts: whoever has found it, and brings it to Mr. Jones in the Upper-end of St. Martins-lane, ſhall have ten Shillings reward, it being of no Uſe to any but the Owner.

RUN away from his Maſter on the 2d Inſtant, David Mafat, a Black about ſeventeen Years of Age, with ſhort wooly Hair; He had on a whitiſh Cloath Livery, Lin'd with Blew, and Princes-mettal Buttons, with a Turbant on his Head: He ſounds a Trumpet, whoever ſecures him and brings him to Edward Talbot Eſq; by Kingſtreet near Soho, ſhall have five Guines Reward.

IF any Perſon has an Eſtate to diſpoſe of, near Reading, of about two hundred Pounds per Annum Freehold; if ſuch Perſon will apply himſelf to Mr. George Wilſon of the Middle Temple, he may hear of a Chapman.

Printed for the Authors, by *J. Mayo*, at the *Printing-Preſs*, againſt *Water-Lane* in *Fleet-ſtreet*. Where Advertiſements are Taken in.